Appin. No.: 10/524,477

Amendment Dated January २५, 2006

Reply to Office Action of November 2, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 2, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The shaped units may be of regular shape, e.g. spheres, cylinders etc. and may be made by a "dry" technique wherein a powder composition comprising particulate lead oxide and particulate support material is compacted to the desired shape, in e.g. a pelleting machine, or a "wet" method wherein the powder composition is mixed with a suitable liquid to form a paste which is then extruded to the desired cross section and the extrudate is cut or broken into units of the requisite length. A granulation method may alternatively be employed wherein the powder composition is mixed with a small amount of liquid, often water, insufficient to give a paste, and the resulting damp mixture granulated or pelletised by means of a pellet mill, for example of the type used for pelleting animal feedstuffs, wherein the mixture to be pelleted is charged to a rotating-perforate perforated cylinder through the perforations of which the mixture is forced by a bar or roller within the cylinder. The resulting extruded mixture is cut from the surface of the rotating cylinder by a doctor knife positioned to give pellets of the desired length. Alternatively, granulated materials may be used as the feed for a pelleting machine. Depending upon the moisture content, granulated materials may be used as the feed for a pettleting machine. Depending upon the moisture content, granulated materials may or may not be dried before use. Furthermore it may be desirable to calcine the shaped units. By the term "calcine" we mean heating in an oxygen-containing gas such as air to temperatures above 200°C.